

The Maine Farmer

AGRICULTURE MECHANIC ARTS LITERATURE NEWS, ETC.

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"OUR HOME, OUR COUNTRY, AND OUR BROTHER MAN."

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Maine Farmer.

Some of the western papers are bringing forward Hon. W. I. Buchanan of Iowa, for appointment as Secretary of Agriculture under Cleveland's administration. Mr. Buchanan is now chief of the agricultural department of the World's Fair, a position he is filling with marked ability.

We reproduce from the Country Gentleman a fine perspective of a country residence designed for Mr. F. A. Nichols, Arlington, N. J. Without a costly and unnecessary ornamentation it is pleasant and convenient house, and suggestive in its general appearance of the many home comforts a well managed farm affords its occupants.

The Farmer accepts and appreciates the high compliment paid by State Master Hunt in his annual address by his recognition of the "generous help" to the order and its work extended through its columns. The press everywhere accords to the Grange a noble mission. The motto of the Farmer has ever been, "Our home, our country and our brother man."

Prof. Cooke's plain yet positive position, stated at the Brunswick dairy meeting that the nutritive contents of ensilage was no more digestible than in the same fodder dried was somewhat of a surprise to those farmers who have allowed themselves to be misled in a measure by the claims made for this fodder by some of the enthusiasts. However, this is the testimony of sound practice and cannot be set aside.

The chief reason that corn fodder has not been held in higher appreciation by feeders is that formerly there was little care exercised in curing it. The stalks were allowed to stand and ripen before cutting, and then left, it may be, in small and carelessly put up shocks exposed to the long and frequent autumn storms till a convenient time for the housing. The corn was the main consideration and the fodder only incidental. Such fodder is an inferior article. Hay exposed in that way would be set down as "spoiled."

In the first place the Morrill act agricultural colleges are not intended to educate young men for farmers in the sense that theological schools educate young men for the ministry.—*New England Farmer.*

Is that so? We can find nothing in the act making such a distinction. Such an interpretation can only come from those who want it so. "As you like it," has seemed to be the controlling idea in shaping the line of effort that was plainly defined in the organic act as related to "agriculture and the mechanic arts." Nothing obscure or indefinite about that.

Mr. A. P. Ayer is one of the successful dairymen of Windham. His specialty is butter, the real gilt-edged kind, and delivered directly to the consumers in the city of Portland. Mr. Ayer has been extremely careful to perfect the quality of his product and of course has a critical class of purchasers. He rightly says that no one thing, even if seemingly trifling, can go wrong without spoiling the product, and draws from a personal experience to prove it. He further says that it actually costs more to make poor butter than to make the good article. The cost caring for the cows and of carrying on the dairy work in the right way is not as much as to do it in the manner that results only in the inferior product. Mr. Ayer does all the work of caring for the milk and manipulating the butter.

An exchange in commenting the good work of the institutes in the past, goes on to claim that the aim this winter should be to get them down to a more practical basis than ever before. It goes on to say that "long essays upon any topic, but especially upon topics that do not lead directly with the practical problems of the farm, should be rigorously excluded." We are prepared to endorse the soundness of these views to the letter. In all the institutes with which we have been connected, the best results came of the work when brought down directly and plainly to the practical affairs of the farm. But such work should be brought out by men eminently qualified for the important service. What farmers need most to know, and which they most wish to be taught, is to get the most products practicable, and therefore the most money out of a given outlay.

THE STATE GRANGE.

In no State in the Union has the Grange taken a stronger stand or held a more influential position than in Maine. From its first introduction it has steadily gained in strength and increased its numbers each year, till it has enlisted in its work and brought to its support many of the able and influential men and women of the State, and has become a power in whatever direction it has seen fit to direct its efforts. The falling off of membership for the year, as reported by the Secretary, for the first time in its history, is greatly to be deplored, and should at once be accepted, by officers and members alike, as a loud

call for a more active campaign the coming year.

The arguments of the Secretary and the Lecturer that this falling off in number is not an evidence of decline can hardly be accepted as sound, nor should such a claim by any means be allowed to ripen into conviction, and thus shape the policy of the organization for the future. This decrease in membership should be arrested at once by more active work, and by increased effort on the part of every one who can see a need of the grand work in which the Grange has enlisted, and for which its founders and supporters have all these years been so diligently laboring. From the meeting at Lewiston should go out the lesson that as the Grange puts forth its efforts such will be the results to follow. The coming year must be one of action. In this work the Farmer stands ready, and in the past, to take an active hand, and use its influence in helping on so good a cause.

HOW PRIZE BUTTER IS MADE.

After the awards at the dairy exhibit of the Pure Food Exposition at New York were published, the *Rural New Yorker* sent out to each exhibitor the following list of questions:

1. From how many different herds was the milk taken from which the butter was made, and what breed, if any, preponderated?
2. Was the cream raised by creamers, or separated by a separator, and what implement was used?
3. Was the butter made from sweet or ripened cream?
4. If from ripened cream, do you use Boyd's starter? And how do you determine when the proper degree of ripeness has been reached?
5. What churn do you use, and what butter worker?
6. At what temperature do you churn, and what is the average time taken by the process?
7. How do you determine when the cream has been sufficiently churned?
8. How much salt do you use to the pound of butter, and what kind?
9. Do you use butter color, and if so, what kind?
10. How often do you work butter, and what time elapses between workings?
11. Do you market your butter in prints or packages, or both?

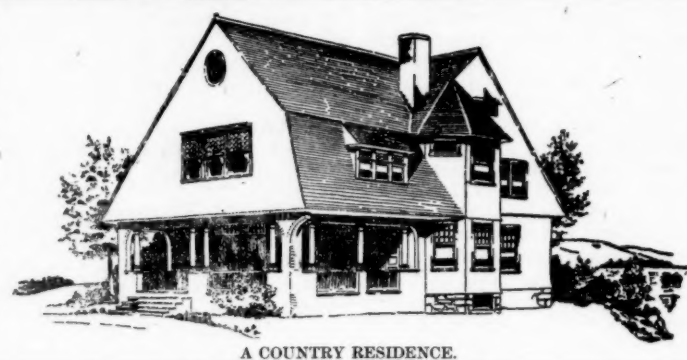
Among the many replies received, we reproduce the following from T. M. Johnson, an experienced butter maker of a Connecticut creamery:

1. I cannot tell the breed, but there were some Jerseys.
2. All from the Creamery.
3. It was made from ripened cream.
4. I do not use Boyd's starter. I determine the proper degree of acidity by taste, and the knowledge that can be gained only by observation and experience, and cannot be explained on paper. In this case the cream is gathered only four times a week; then two days' cream is brought at once. For some time, unknown cause, it ripened faster than usual the night I had the cream from which the "show" butter was made, and it had passed the point when, in my opinion, I could get the finest flavor; thus I did not score as high on flavor as I would have done had I been able to churn it two hours earlier.
5. We use the Davis swing Churn and Skinner power worker.
6. Sixty-six degrees was the churning temperature. The time of churning varies with the amount of cream in the churn; 60 minutes for 125 pounds is about my time.
7. I can only say that I stop the churn when the cream first breaks, wash all down, and put in about a pint of salt to 100 pounds of butter, and let the churn run until, when it is stopped, the granular butter will all be on top of the buttermilk. If it is obstinate, I put in more water and salt, and shake it more.
8. I vary the amount of salt according to the taste of the trade. Some like one-fourth, some one-half, some three-fourths and some as high as one and one-fourth ounce to one pound. I use the Genesee.
9. The butter exhibited was of natural color. I now use Wells, Richardson Co.'s color.
10. For the regular trade I salt on the Skinner power worker, then work across the printing worker once by hand, then tub or print with the Carver print.

The premium butter was salted a quarter of an ounce to the pound in the granular form and set away for a while. After about five hours, it is worked over once, set over night, then worked again and packed. This was very nearly the same method I used at the Conway, Mass., creamery when I made the butter that took the gold medal at the Bay State Fair, Boston, 1880, the cream for which was tempered by me, as I was learning my trade in that factory.

A valued subscriber, writing from Randolph, Mass., in sending on his annual subscription, adds: "I wish to congratulate you upon your recent change, not only in the 'make up' of your excellent paper, but also in its many other improvements. Hoping that it may add to its already large company of admirers, and be of increasing value to not only yourselves, but also to its large number of friends."

A half ton of Aroostock turkeys were shipped by express last week, consigned to a firm in South Gardiner.



A COUNTRY RESIDENCE.

INTELLIGENT DAIRYING.

The distinction between western farmers and the great mass of farmers in New England, so generally overlooked by western institute lecturers when coming here to aid in this method of work, is plainly brought out by the following clipping from the editorial columns of *Hoard's Dairyman*, published in Wisconsin:

What a flood of convincing testimony can be adduced that the almost universal cause why individual farmers, as well as communities, do not succeed in dairying, is because of their ignorance of what constitutes good dairying. Here we are to-day with the prices of butter and cheese way up, and not one dairy farmer in a thousand in the United States is in any shape whatever to take advantage of the situation. It has been running just this way for thirty years, yet what have these men learned from it? Comparatively nothing. Here they stand facing one way, and the market facing the other. Preach to them, labor with them, try to stir them out of their unthinking ruts, and get them to see that they ought to make their farm practice act in conjunction with the market; in fact, do anything we can, still there they are, handling their cows just as they did thirty years ago.

It is simply amazing that farmers who call themselves really intelligent should continue in such wasteful and unprofitable ways. We never heard of a man who was engaged in winter butter making but what was earnestly in favor of it as the most profitable way of making cows pay. This has been told and re-told for years and years. Still these men are unconverted, or if they are converted, they haven't energy enough to put their judgment into execution.

In starting up modern dairying in this State, and in most parts of New England at large, winter dairying has been the cornerstone on which it has been built. All the butter factories in the State have been started with the view to running in winter as well as summer, and with the exception of a few cases where work was stopped for the first winter only, that plan has been carried out. The result invariably has been that on the starting of a factory the whole community of patrons commenced to change over to winter dairying. In many of our largest enterprises of this kind, and with most of our private dairymen making this business a specialty, the make of butter is as large in the six months including winter as in the rest of the year. So that the unsurmountable obstinacy and stupidity of thirty years standing and still impregnable charged up by our Western contemporary finds not its application here. Our farmers are attentive to the teachings of the day, studious to learn, and ready to adopt methods and practices that lead to better results. What has been accomplished among us in the way of progress in this business of dairying in the last decade is as surprising as it is encouraging. It is all the result of intelligent application. Learning the best methods and practices they have the energy to put them into execution and thus reap the results always held out to intelligent industry.

BOYS DIGGING POTATOES.

"Boys are sociable beings and have not yet formed habits of keeping steadily at work. If they are all together, they will not dig faster than the slowest one does. There is too much talking for progress. By this method each one has his share marked off, and, if too slow, will soon be whipped up by the ridicule of the other boys. No self-respecting boy is going to be left behind long when he is placed where his lack of effort shows. This method teaches him to be prompt. The minute the plow has passed, each springs to his work to get it done before the others. Let a new boy come here and in two days he will act like a new creature; he'll step quicker and take advantage of every twist to lighten labor. When we first began to dig, one boy pulled his hook with so little force that the tubers fell close to the hill, and he had to poke them out of the way. He felt bad because he could not keep up, but did not know what the matter was. I told him to get Mr. Momenum to help him. 'I don't know any such man' was his reply. I took the hook, and with a quick, strong jerk threw both dirt and tubers fairly out on the freshly-plowed ground. I then explained to him the reason why the heavier articles went the farthest and so that he need not turn them over again or even look where they went. 'Attention to this will save you half the work,' my boy. Better study philosophy," said I. He was soon one of the fastest diggers. He never had staid long anywhere else because, as one neighbor said, 'He is too slow and will not stand urging.' All most all the trouble with hired help

comes from ignorance on one side and a want of tact on the other. Kindly teach and praise a boy, and he will do anything for you."—*Rural New Yorker.*

MODERN EDUCATION.

The Master of the Vermont State Grange, Hon. Alpha Messer, in his report to the National Grange on education said:

Every intelligent and observing mind recognizes the fact that we are living in a progressive and intensely practical age, and that old methods of instruction and hallowed traditions of knowledge have much less influence upon the thoughtful mind at the present time than in former periods. The intense activity and keen perceptions of the mass of distinctly American people have resulted in a spirit of investigation and inquiry which seriously threatens to break some of the idols of the past, and to set up in their place something that is real and tangible, something that is practical as well as theoretical. In years gone by it has been thought that all the knowledge worth attaining has been picked up in the classics and in the sciences, and that he who would unlock these storehouses of knowledge must spend the best years of his life in solving abstruse problems and in poring over classical literature, but such is not the case to-day. A very large class of men, and women also, do not accept the definition of education as a mere disciplining of the mind. They feel constrained to give it a deeper and broader and higher significance, and would have it apply, not merely to the intellectuality of the individual, but to his capability, also. The American farmer, the mechanic, the business man, that class of people who come in contact with the actualities of life in their daily experience, are looking for, striving for, asking for a system of education which will be of practical value to their children in the varied industries of life. By this it should not be inferred that there is any disrespect for the study of the classics by those who desire to make them the basis of their education; but at the same time it would be claimed that equal discipline, polish and grace of diction can be gained by the study of the English language.

FOOD FOR ALL SEASONS.

—Just think of it! Of the \$1,000,000,000 representing the exports of the United States during the past year, 80%, or \$800,000,000 worth, consisted of agricultural products! Were it not for the farmers of the country, what a disastrous "balance of trade" would be against us, if our present rate of importing foreign goods could by any possibility be maintained!

—There is an art in feeding, to make the feed spin out evenly and uniformly and without waste, as the wool is paid out from the spindle into an even and perfect thread. To cram the rack full, even of the best of hay, or to dash an uncertain quantity of grain recklessly into the troughs is not feeding.

—A ewe that has abundant exercise all winter, being well fed, of course, will year a lamb that will endure from twenty to thirty degrees of cold more than the lamb of one that has no exercise, even though she is equally well fed.—*Sheep Breeder.*

—Our experience has satisfied us that a mixture of 25% sulphur and 75% salt, kept constantly before lambs, will measurably suppress ticks and prevent them from doing much injury to the stock. But the lambs should be kept strictly out of the rain.

—A New South Wales bred Merino ram, but of nearly pure American lineage, has been awarded the grand champion prize at the show of the Australian Sheep Breeders' Association, and the decision of the judges has been supported by the practically unanimous opinion of the leading pastoralists of the colonies.

—The Agricultural Chautauqua is a course of reading on agricultural topics that was devised by Prof. H. J. Waters of the Pennsylvania State College, Center county, Pa. It is an excellent course, and boys and girls who are growing up on the farm and do not yet feel ready or able to attend an agricultural college, would be greatly helped by studying the books selected for this plan of reading.

—Mr. Towne of Saco who, on account of feeble health is selling some of his stock, has several fine Durhams to sell. Should there be any one looking for such stock, he would do well to call and examine Mr. Towne's stock.

—The Baldwin and Sebago Lake View Association will hold their annual Fair at East Sebago, Sept. 19th, 20th and 21st. Mr. William Haley is Treasurer.

Communications.

For the Maine Farmer.

BALANCED RATION FOR HENS.

BY E. C. DOW.

What shall I feed my hens to make them lay in cold weather? This is the question we are all asking, and how shall it be answered? The hen is a peculiar thing and will not always shell out the eggs even when we think we are furnishing her with all that is required to meet her needs; but we may as well acknowledge at the start that we are ignorant and do not fully understand the needs of a laying hen. When a pullet has reached maturity, and has a warm pen with plenty of exercise, and yet fails to produce eggs, we may be sure that we are not supplying her with all the egg forming food that she needs. We may feed an abundance of good food, yet if it is lacking in any ingredient that is needed to form the egg, we may look for eggs in vain.

We hear a great deal about the balanced ration theory for dairy cows and other farm stock but the same principles have not as yet been practically applied to the feeding of poultry. Now and then may be found a poultry man who has studied the needs of his flocks, and who is able to obtain satisfactory results, but most evening farmers who are not so fortunate as to have such a one can tell why he feeds as he does—except to give as a reason that it pays. This is reason enough to be sure, when looked at from the standpoint of results alone; but one cannot prove a profitable feed while another, which may differ but slightly, proves to be nearly worthless. What makes the difference? The one is a balanced ration, the other is not. In other words, one contains all the different ingredients needed to support the hen and form the egg, while the other is deficient in some way. What is a balanced ration for laying hens? As far as I have learned, there is no scientific standard by which we may be guided, but my conclusion is, that a grain ration that supplies digestible albuminoids and carbohydrates in the proportion of one to five with cooked potatoes, or their equivalents, to the amount of one quart daily for every twenty hens, to which should be added a supply of bone or shell and a limited quantity of lean meat daily, comes as near a balanced ration as we need to have for profitable results. If my conclusions are wrong I shall be glad to be corrected by those whose greater knowledge and experience enables them to speak with more certainty.

For the Maine Farmer.

A SUCCESSFUL ORCHARDIST.

BY C. S. A.

A pleasant dinner hour was enjoyed at the house of Mr. George A. Longfellow, Winthrop. Though about eighty years of age, he is still apparently as capable as ever for business. His farm is in the Roxbury Russet belt, including parts of the towns of Winthrop, West Gardiner and Litchfield, where this variety does better so far as I know, than in any part of the State.

Mr. Longfellow's Russets of 1891 marketed last May and prime brought in Boston from \$4.50 to \$5.50 per barrel. His crop this season is 875 barrels, two-thirds Russets; the largest crop his orchard has produced. The abundance and excellence of the fruit Mr. Longfellow thinks is largely due to the use of superphosphate.

Mr. George A. Longfellow's subscription to the *Maine Farmer* is a continuation of his father's, which was started Jan. 1, 1833.

For the Maine Farmer.

A NEW FEATURE.

BY J. A. R.

At the last meeting of Norway Grange, Saturday, Dec. 17th, the third and fourth degrees were conferred upon a class of nine. About one hundred and twenty-five participated in the happy feast. The afternoon was fully occupied with business and literary work.

A very interesting feature was the marriage of our worthy Assistant Steward, Asa Richardson to one of the newly made members, Miss Jennie Verrill. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Caroline E. Angel, who is a member of this Grange. Presents to the bride from the members of the Grange were made by Rev. M. T. The question of disbursements, "Does the Grange pay financially, provided one attends all the meetings?" The discussion was very animated, most of the participants taking the affirmative.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE.

(Made at State Grange.)

We desire to congratulate the farmers of Maine upon the continuance of favorable seasons for seed time, development, and harvest.

Nature's provision has not been withheld, and all our varied products of the soil have yielded in proportion to the forethought and attention of the husbandman.

Some of our products have been favored far more than the same ones in other States. No crop has totally failed.

We also rejoice that the tendency to better prices for our products has been sustained, and with some of our principal ones they have advanced.

We believe our farmers are moving to a condition, slowly but surely, that will found a prosperity worthy of the attention of our enterprising young men. The establishment of the condensed milk industry, the extension of associated dairying, the increasing popularity of our State as a summer resort, the development of manufacturing industries and the construction of railroads, all tend to stimulate and enhance our agricultural interests.

The influence of these factors seems to point to special branches of farming. The custom of mixed husbandry was well adapted to former conditions, when the wants of the farm and home were principally supplied by their own resources of field and forest, and currency was less needed, and competition slight. But modern requirements call for more cash and less labor.

And to realize more cash from farming in Maine, in spite of Western facilities

for machine labor, and cheap transportation and Canadian competition, requires intense work of brain, applied through improved machines and abundant fertilizers, by modern methods.

Successful farming, we believe, may come to mean special farming, because to be successful will require so much skill and attention that it will be impossible, for the average farmer, to successfully divide his energies.

By special farming we desire to aim at co-operative benefits, which can be obtained by communities rather than individuals.

One community, by reason of climatic or soil conditions, may produce potatoes successfully, another sweet corn, another apples, another condensed milk, butter or cheese.

These particular natural advantages should be understood, and subordinate and county Granges can materially aid their members by carefully considering them.

Successful farming in Maine will come to mean skillful farming, which is acquired by the experience of ourselves and others; hence the necessity of obtaining all that is accessible, by communication with our neighbors, from papers and experiment stations, and then weighing and sifting it in the Grange.

The Board of Agriculture is doing much good by its publications, and we believe its influence could be extended with profit.

The Experiment Station is doing a work in confirming methods, in exposing frauds, and in demonstrating results that will be of incalculable benefit.

The State College, while not so immediate and direct in its results, has done much for the cause of agriculture. Its popularity and usefulness is increasing, and must eventually become a potent force in rural pursuits.

Many sections are hampered by inferior roads, indeed as a rule we have no good roads.

Our annual expenses for road repairs probably equal or exceed those for the school, and yet we have roads only fairly passable for eight months in the year, and much of the remaining four months they are nearly impassable.

It costs as much to transport our products five miles over our highways, (even at their best,) as for five hundred by rail or water.

All supplies bought, all products sold, are directly affected by this element of transportation. Yet rural towns are not able to build and support improved roads in all parts of their territory.

The highway expense for many towns should be lightened, and at the same time there is imperative need of better roads for marketing produce and bringing supplies.

The public is so accustomed to "get along" with such roads as they have, that no example of better ones before them, that they are accepted and tolerated as a matter of course.

The system of public expenditures in this matter is worn out and needs revision.

We believe that our agricultural and all business interests as well, would be greatly advanced by a modification of our methods of highway maintenance on the line of the general principle that the support of, and the improvements on, all our leading and important thoroughfares, should be as general and broad as the communities they serve, and the business they promote.

With an equalization of taxation, supplemented by better transportation advantages, the agriculture of our State may become as attractive and remunerative an occupation as its importance demands.

E. D. LEAVITT, EDWARD WIGGIN, DANIEL A. WADLIN, Committee. J. W. LINDSAY, MRS. H. H. SIMPSON, MRS. A. P. AYER.

MAINE AGRICULTURAL NEWS.

—C. O. Hatch raised 135 bushels of oats and barley from 251 rods of measured ground, or at the rate of 86 bushels to the acre. Who beats that?

—Most of the apples in Liberty have been sold, and a large portion of the shipped. Dr. J. W. Clough, who raised the largest lot in that vicinity, sold his last week to Mr. Cook of Vassalboro, for \$1.75 per bushel, by the lot, for No. 1 and No. 2 delivered at Thorndike Station.

The Ellsworth American says: "The use of ensilage as food for cattle did not have much of a boom in this section. Several years ago a few silos were built and filled, but the use of this food has gradually decreased, until now we know of but one farmer in Belfast who uses it. Mr. J. C. Townsend fills his silo every year, and reports good results from it. He commenced feeding this season's crop Dec. 10th."

—Mr. William Greenlaw of Northport recently had a narrow escape from serious loss among his cattle. The whole herd were in the tie-up, which extends the length of one side of the barn, and the floor gave way under the animals, but the crisis and stanchions remained in place. This left ten of the cattle hanging by their necks to the stanchions. The commotion was heard in the house, and help was got in time to save them.

—The Bethel Dairymen Company is turning out some of the finest of butter at its factory. Mr. Tilton, who was formerly in the factory at Buckfield, is manager.

—The annual meeting of the Kennebec Agricultural Society will be held at Readfield, on Monday, Jan. 2, at 10 A. M.

FEEDERS' COLUMN.

In a former article in the feeders' column we incidentally stated that no one could properly recommend mathematical ratios for feeding any kind of stock. The Experiment Station Record, issued by the Department of Agriculture, commenting in its August issue on an article written by Julius Kuhn of the University of Halle, shows some of the reasons why feeding strictly by rule would not be sound practice considered from an economical basis.

The Record says:

It is now about 17 years since the first detailed explanation of the German doctrine of feeding standards and ratios for domestic animals, which had already become current in that country, was printed in the English language. The ideas were kindly received on this side of the Atlantic and were rapidly promulgated. The feeding standards of Wolff came to be very commonly quoted. Gradually the analyses of American feeding stuffs accumulated, and as experiment stations were introduced and gave more or less attention to experiments in feeding, tests were made of the digestibility of our feeding stuffs. To-day we are making use of our own analyses and of the coefficients of digestibility as learned by both our own and European experiments. To apply them we are using almost exclusively the feeding standards of Wolff. Of the great good that has come from this there can be no possible question, but it is a misfortune that the feeding standards should be followed so blindly as they are by many writers, teachers and experimenters in the United States. Indeed the figures for average composition of feeding stuffs and standards for dairy rations are often used in such a way as to make the science of cattle feeding little more than a branch of applied mathematics. Prof. Kuhn calls attention to several difficulties in the way of prescribing definite feeding standards for different classes of animals which are fed for different purposes. They have to do with the animals, the feeding stuffs, and the commercial value of the feeding stuffs and the products. In the first place, different animals of the same class differ greatly in their capacity for utilizing food, and even the same animal may require different rations under different conditions. Thus, different breeds of milch cows and different cows of the same breed may vary widely with respect to the amounts of food which they can most advantageously utilize. The amount appropriate for 1000 pounds, live weight, may be much greater with a small cow than with a large. It varies with the bodily condition of the animal, whether lean or fat, and with the amount of the milk yield. The quantity of food needed depends also upon whether, as the milk falls off toward the end of the period of lactation, the cow is to be fattened for the butcher, or is to be again used for breeding and milking. In brief, it is impossible to lay down hard and fast rules for quantities of food of quantities of nutrients, or for nutritive ratios to apply indiscriminately to different animals under different conditions. Different specimens of any kind of feeding stuff may vary widely in chemical composition so that the figures for average composition may be very far from the truth in a given case. The coefficients of digestibility are likewise variable. And even if the quantities of actually digestible nutrients in any given instance, as determined by either natural or artificial digestion, should be taken as the basis of the calculation they might be very far from expressing the nutritive value of the materials as they are actually utilized by the animal, because of the defects in our present methods of analysis and of classification of the nutrients. Finally, economical feeding is not simply a matter of fitting the nutrients of the food to the physiological demands, but of adjusting the kinds and quantities of feeding stuffs to their cost and to the amount and market value of the product. Prof. Kuhn's conclusion is that to calculate rations upon a basis of the feeding standards and the average composition of the feeding stuffs, is irrational and may be very unprofitable. He would, however, by no means give up either standards or tables of composition. As regards the quantities of nutrients to be fed, he would take into consideration the individual needs of each animal and make the quantities of total food and of the several nutrients such as will best fit the special demands of the animal for sustenance and production.

(1) Which is the best feed for a calf the first winter, oats or bran?

(2) Is three quarts a day a good feed?

Machias, Dec. 18. YOUNG FARMER.

(1) Oats are a good feed for any young stock. A calf, colt or lamb will take to eating oats quicker than almost any other grain feed. They are also safe to feed in any quantity the animal will take. Their digestible nutritive contents as compared with bran is as follows:

(2) One quart of oats a day to a calf six to nine months old is grain feed enough to keep it growing thriftily, or two quarts of bran.

Oats 9.0 53.8

Bran 10.0 56.4

It is thus seen that in nutritive contents they are very nearly alike. The cost price, calling oats 40 cents a bushel, is, oats per ton \$25, bran, \$20. In our own practice we have been led to prefer the oats to the bran for young stock, and if obtainable at price named, would recommend "Young Farmer" to use them in preference to the bran.

(2) One quart of oats a day to a calf six to nine months old is grain feed enough to keep it growing thriftily, or two quarts of bran.

Maine Farmer.

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS.

Dec. 29-31—Maine Pedagogical Society, Lewiston.
Dec. 29—Farmers' Institute at Waldo Station.
Dec. 30—Kennebec District Lodge, Good Templars, Oakland.
Jan. 4—Androscoggin County Grange at East Auburn.
Jan. 6—Meeting of the Maine Legislature at Augusta.
Jan. 6—Knox and Lincoln Union Pomona Grange, West Rockport.
Jan. 11—State Board of Pharmacy at Portland.
Jan. 11—Farmers' Institute at Bangham.
Jan. 12—Farmers' Institute at St. Albans.
Jan. 18—Cumberland Pomona Grange at Scarborough.
Jan. 13—State branch meeting of the Central Labor Union at Augusta.
Jan. 21—Convention of Central Labor Union at Portland.
Jan. 24—Races at the Augusta Park.
Aug. 16 and 17—Races at the Augusta Park.

FAILS TO OCCUR.

Buxton and Hollis Agricultural Society—At Buxton, Sept. 23, 24, 25 and 26.
North Cumberland Agricultural Society—At Harrison, Sept. 20th, 21th and 22th.
Ossipee Valley Fair Association—At Cornish, August 29th, 30th and 31st.
Cumberland Farmers' Club—August 22d, 23d and 24th.

THE STATE GRANGE.

We continue our report of the annual meeting at Lewiston:

Tuesday Afternoon.

I. O. Winslow, Worthy Lecturer, presented his report for the past year:

Lecturer's Report.

Our annual meeting affords an opportunity to look backward and forward. The practical advantage of occasions like this consists, in great measure, in the fact that they enable us to turn our attention to the work of the Grange from a broad and general standpoint; and, profiting by the experiences of the past, to shape our course the more intelligently for the future.

The true position and work of the Grange in the body politic is of such a nature that reflection and deliberation are peculiarly desirable and requisite.

The usual practices and exercises of our Grange meetings may seem trivial and ordinary, but there lies underneath all these a movement and an advancement ranking as one of the great factors which are working out the problem of human destiny.

The work of the Grange in our State during the past year has been of a deep, substantial nature. There has been no special "boom" inaugurated. The Grange has not advertised itself largely, and yet as the statistics indicate, we have received fifteen hundred new members.

The character of our membership was never so good as to-day.

The majority of our local Granges, scattered over the length and breadth of the State, are strong enough to be self-supporting, without external aid or encouragement. The principles, the practices, and the advantages of our order are generally so well understood and deeply felt as to engender sufficient vital force for self maintenance.

I have visited during the year, twenty-one subordinate Granges; have attended meetings of seven of the Pomona Granges, and have been present at four or five general gatherings. My experience in these visits has given me an encouraging view of the condition of the order. In most cases the Granges reported, as at weak have shown elements of strength sufficient to dispel all fears of their dissolution. Out of over 200 organizations in the State the decline of six or seven means nothing more than what should reasonably be expected as the result of peculiar circumstances which are liable to develop at certain points.

According to a purpose to which the Grange committed itself at the annual session a year ago, its officers have during the past year expended special effort in creating an interest in the matter of reform in taxation. The committee appointed for the purpose has prepared and caused to be distributed, a large number of pamphlets, giving a copy of the proposed listing bill, together with other data and comments. This subject has been given special prominence in the discussions at subordinate and Pomona Granges.

As a result of this agitation we may justly claim that there is a prevailing sentiment among the common people throughout the State in favor of tax reform.

It is also evident that this agitation has had an effect upon the selection of members of the coming legislature.

In the matter of agricultural education in the schools, a cause which the Grange has made peculiarly its own, there has been some progress. The plan has been successfully adopted in certain schools scattered over the State. It must be confessed, however, that the adoption has been far too slow to be satisfactory. For this there seems to be no inherent reason connected with the subject itself or with the idea of putting it into practice.

In this connection we are brought face to face with a fact, which must have been long apparent to men of reason and reflection—the wretched want of management in our common school system. We have no real system of education. We pay our taxes, indeed, systematically, the money is systematically distributed from the State treasury among the different towns; but at this point system ends. In the expenditure of our school funds there is a general disregard of the question of practical utility. One half the funds of the State devoted to public education are wasted for want of intelligent and systematic expenditure.

The time is certainly coming, if it has not already come, when we shall be forced to adopt either the so-called "town system" of schools, together with county supervision, or some other system which will bring about the desired result. In this reform the Grange should take a leading part, because, in the neglectful methods referred to, the rural schools are suffering the most.

The office and work of the Grange in general may be regarded as four-fold:

1. To take an interest in, and exercise an influence upon public matters, and State and national legislation.

2. To secure financial advantage to its members, both in the way of buying and selling; by cooperation, and by teaching them more economical methods of production.

3. To promote more kindly and neighborly social relations among rural people.

4. To afford its members an opportunity to educate themselves, intellectually and morally, constantly building up in mind and farm homes a higher type of manhood and womanhood.

The report was discussed by Prof. Rogers of the Maine State College, who advocated that a systematic course of reading be laid out for the members of the Grange, and that members of the faculty of the college visit the Pomona Granges, with apparatus to illustrate and enlarge on the subjects taken up.

Prof. Rogers here outlined a course to be presented, which will be published later.

The Worthy Lecturer's report was then adopted.

W. W. Brown, by special request, touchingly rendered the old song, "Just Twenty Years Ago."

The report of the Executive Committee was then presented by its chairman, O. Gardner.

The report was accepted and adopted.

Tuesday Evening.

The Master then announced the following committee:

Mutual Aid.—John L. Ham, W. W. Andrews, J. H. Sanborn, L. C. Jewett; Sisters, C. A. Eastman, D. F. Cummings.

Household Economy.—Sisters E. B. Hunt, C. K. Kyes, E. T. Benner, D. F. Cummings, Abel Thompson; Brothers E. C. Mallett, A. S. Merrill.

Good of the Order.—Sisters C. J. Herring, E. H. Allen, D. H. Mansfield; Brothers J. H. Sanborn, C. O. Farrington, F. S. Adams, A. S. Haynes, Ansel Holway, T. J. Carle, C. S. Adams, Amos Carter; Sisters H. S. Morse, H. P. Stackpole, A. P. Ayer.

Taxation.—M. L. Merrill, Edward Wiggins, A. P. Ayer, C. A. Perley, J. E. Stewart; Sisters Sylvia Stone, D. E. Cummings.

Co-operation.—A. B. Briggs, P. P. Pulsifer, C. Powers, A. J. Norton, O. E. Stevens; Sisters C. W. Crowell, J. A. Roberts, K. Estes.

Education.—L. O. Straw, A. E. Rogers, A. A. Blackington, C. S. Adams, B. F. Neal; Sisters D. P. Stackpole, E. C. Mallett, J. J. Carr.

Resolutions.—W. W. Andrews, D. A. Wadlin, E. H. Tobey, T. J. Carle, J. L. Brown; Sisters S. C. Campbell, B. F. Briggs.

Department of Agriculture.—E. E. Light, R. D. Leavitt, Edward Wiggins, D. A. Wadlin, W. W. Lindsay; Sisters A. P. Ayer, H. H. Simpson.

Claims and Grievances.—C. O. Farrington, J. H. Sanborn, W. B. Furgerson; Sisters M. A. Lufkin, E. H. Allen.

Fire Insurance.—F. A. Allen, C. H. Ayer, H. H. Simpson.

Woman's Work in the Grange.—Sisters B. S. Ayer, Hattie Harriman, Sarah P. Smith; Bros. J. F. Thompson, A. A. Carter.

Subordinate Granges, their Conduct and Entertainment.—J. W. Ricker, J. S. Staples, J. P. Moulton, J. H. Moore, B. W. Kyes; Sisters P. P. Pulsifer, G. W. Hosmer.

Officers' Salaries.—L. H. Ford, H. W. Green, D. B. Johnston; Sisters E. T. Benner, Rufus Stone.

Department of Agriculture and State College.—F. S. Adams, W. H. Moody, C. F. Fletcher, G. F. Chapman, John Marlette; Sisters Cora F. Macomber, O. E. Stewart.

Finances.—J. M. Jackson, C. M. Cobb, N. A. Nickerson.

Division of Labor.—Ansel Holway, H. Milles, Pease; Sisters J. S. Brown, C. O. Farrington.

Constitution and By-Laws.—J. J. Carr, A. L. Mudgett, Charles Edwards, C. Hayford, B. F. Briggs; Sisters R. H. Libby, D. S. Carter.

On motion of F. A. Allen, voted that that part of the Executive Committee's report which relates to buying agricultural implements, and State store, be referred to a special committee to be appointed by the chair.

The Worthy Master then gave an explanation of the unwritten work of the order.

Wednesday Forenoon.

There was a larger attendance than on Tuesday, the hall being filled with earnest and intelligent patrons.

Voted that the Master's address and the Lecturer's report be referred to the committee on division of labor.

A special committee for reference of that part of the Executive Committee's report relating to agricultural implements, was appointed: J. V. Barton, N. C. Pinkham, N. A. Nickerson.

The committee on division of labor made a partial report.

Committee appointed to prepare and send messages of fraternal greeting to the State Granges of Massachusetts and New Hampshire now in session.

Dr. G. M. Twitchell was appointed said committee.

Miss M. L. Wilson, teacher of the public school at East Auburn, then conducted a recitation in Winslow's Principles of Agriculture.

After the conclusion of Miss Wilson's class recitation, Prof. W. W. Stetson, superintendent of the Auburn schools, gave an address on the schools of Maine.

Prof. Stetson said, we cannot expect to have a good teacher for \$3.50 per week and have them board around. He ought to know because he has taught for that price.

In the future the schools should teach more that is practical and waste less time on tests that are of no use to the pupil.

Reports of deputies were then called for.

B. F. Cobb made a verbal report for Androscoggin county stating that the Grange was fully up to its splendid record of past years.

C. Powers made a report for Aroostook county. Each Grange holds its regular meetings and are there to stay.

N. C. Pinkham reported for northern part of Cumberland county which is in a flourishing condition.

W. H. Vinton reported other sections of the same county.

Franklin county was reported by L. G. Kyes. He had visited all Granges in his county except one dormant.

Hancock county sent a written report by H. J. Harriman, who had visited seven Granges.

Kennebec county. The eastern part was reported by W. S. Weeks; for the western part of the county W. H. Keith presented a written report.

Wednesday Afternoon.

B. F. Hamilton offered the following resolution, which was on motion referred to the committee on education:

Resolved. That we recommend the present Legislature to amend the constitution of the State forbidding the State to appropriate any money raised by general taxation to support sectarian institutions and prohibiting the towns from so voting.

Joseph B. Welt, deputy for Lincoln county, reported.

A. B. Briggs, deputy of eastern Oxford county, presented a written report.

W. H. Tracy reported for the western part of Oxford county in a written report.

Mrs. Ellen B. Hunt, chairman of the committee on "Household Economy," reported. The report was accepted and adopted.

M. L. Merrill, chairman of committee on taxation, reported. The report was accepted and discussed by D. H. Thing, Esq.

Wednesday Evening.

The report of the committee on taxation was adopted.

The special committee to whom was referred that part of the lecturer's report as relates to general education, reported:

Voted. That the committee recommend that a committee, consisting of Brothers Winslow, Rogers, Straw and Stetson, be authorized to prepare and distribute among the subordinate Granges a circular explaining a proposed course of study, and to take all measures necessary to carry the same into effect.

F. S. Adams, chairman of the committee on Department of Agriculture and State College, reported, and the report was adopted. John L. Ham, committee on Mutual Aid, reported, and his report was adopted.

L. O. Straw, chairman of committee on Education, reported as follows:

Education.

Education comprehends all that series of instruction and discipline which is intended to enlighten the understanding, correct the temper, and form the manners and habits of youth, and fit them for usefulness in their future stations.

It means, educate him morally, physically, mentally. This calls into requisition the home training, which has been termed the germ of future manhood and womanhood; and much depends upon those who for years have the controlling power in shaping the future course of the child. Strong natural propensities develop in many, yet the child is most likely to form a character in harmony with the strongest influence surrounding it.

It has been said that childhood is the civilization of the future in the egg, and childhood itself is at the mercy of the parentage.

We may safely apply to every child in America the saying of Dr. Johnson: "You may make something of a Scotchman if he is caught early." And Victor Hugo: "That all the vagabondage in the world begins in neglected childhood."

In the Declaration of Purposes we are admonished to advance the cause of education among ourselves and our children, by all just means within our power. Parents, then, should look well to the training of their children in the requisites necessary to the proper development of him whose tender years are as the tiny twig, and whose moral and mental education can be as easily swayed.

In his hands is the tenderest of saplings, and to him is charged the child's destiny. We are warned of this instinctively, and that slow development of a child's mind needs all the tender nursing within the power of the parent to give. A model, well set and fostered, grows into the strong and sturdy oak; but to neglect it brings diminutiveness and early decay. Education begins at home. Mold the plastic minds of youth, and educate them to work. Cultivate an appreciation of farm homes and country life.

The farmer, to keep pace with other industries, requires talent and taste, and the object of this paper is to urge that mode of education tending especially to the growth and development of that industry so completely allied with the farmer's interest. It is the purpose of the Grange to educate the younger members of the family to content themselves with things pertaining to the farm and home, and thereby promote and uphold the farming industry. We recognize the fact that education is a potent factor in Grange work, and we feel our deep sense of responsibility when giving our thought to a subject of such vital worth, through which permanent Grange growth must receive its impetus. Yet, as an agricultural band, it is not unjust to carry into faithful execution that which has a tendency to bring an honest tiller of the soil to a competitive level with other avocations of life, raise him to a higher standard of general education, that he may be the better prepared to instruct in whatever comes within his province.

The subordinate Grange is but the primary school, in which shall be promulgated a thorough practical knowledge of successful agriculture. To conduct a farm successfully requires talent, and to become a talented man demands extensive reading from the most approved selections of agricultural and industrial works; and as many are debarred from such knowledge because of a scarcity of such reading matter, we would recommend that the subordinate Granges establish a library, in which may be found such reading as will tend to instruct the patron in whatever pertains to the farming industry.

We feel that in our common school there is a lack of instruction in those branches which are so needful to awaken an interest in the pupil of the beauties surrounding his farm home. And we query how can we educate our children to better content themselves there.

No one disputes that there is and has been for many years a general discontent amongst the children reared on the farm, and largely because of the discontented fathers and mothers who are continually degrading their own labor. Let the husbandman remember that to content his family he must first content himself, and if he be a literary man, his children in part will be literary also. If parents love their home and surround it with pleasant children largely will gladly stay, and those away will rejoice to return. An intelligent farmer will work more hours in a day, take better care of his cattle, provide warmer buildings, fertilize his land and grow rich, while the ignorant have fewer wants and therefore little wealth.

In this age of progress let the farmer look well to the fact that he is in the race and that a good education is the only safeguard to a successful competition. As the busy mechanical industries magnify only through a higher intelligence of that class of men designed by nature to manage the same, so the industry which we here represent will develop and thrive when managed by like men with the same relentless devotion and study.

Education is as boundless as the space in which we live as high as heaven and broad as the earth. Two characteristics of the American people seem inconsistent with each other; admiration for intellectual gifts and undervaluation of special knowledge. No one has been able to throw any light upon the causes calling forth the appearance of rare geniuses.

France found its master in the time of the revolution in a native of a wild Italian island, hence a fair question to ask, have we produced a fair share of talent from the ranks? A comparison of the United States with England, Germany or France during the last century shows that fewer men have adorned the roll of honor than the roll of these other countries and this is accounted for by saying that their chief occupation is the subjugation of their own country.

American conditions have evolved a type of mind that is quick, vigorous, practical, versatile, but at the same time is lacking in the slow patience to bring details to an exquisite perfection. Hence, with many of our American students, a few months or years in Europe seem indispensable to the rounding up of the higher American education. The human mind, like the plant, strengthens and develops with the food material given it; and as education is the basis principle, is not the Grange delinquent in its duty in not urging more strongly a way whereby the American farmer may rise from his lethargy and become a shining light among the orbs of the profession?

To educate him in his chosen profession the Grange offers the best opportunity of any organization in the world, when properly conducted. It should teach him to leave the old trodden ways of his ancestry. That if Baldwin apples offer the best opportunity for money he should by all means accept it. If it be sheep raising or dairying, accept them, for certainly there is no more wealth amongst the generality of farmers to-day than half a century ago.

Educate him to live within his means—that if he put one cent at interest per day for fifty years, he will be the happy possessor of \$950. If he be ten cents per day—which many chew up—he will have \$9,500; if he be twenty cents, he will have to his credit \$19,000. So at 6 per cent simple interest, any sum of money will double itself in 16 years and 8 months; and at semi-annual interest, which most people pay—the same will double in 11 years and 327 days, and yet we think we are well enough off by paying yearly interest. Let him be educated, for why should he not be? Why should we not legislate for him? He is worth saving for without him the grandest things would fall to atoms.

As a nation we are making more progress than any other in the world, and we have grown through the manifestation of a child's mind needs all the tender nursing within the power of the parent to give. A model, well set and fostered, grows into the strong and sturdy oak; but to neglect it brings diminutiveness and early decay. Education begins at home. Mold the plastic minds of youth, and educate them to work. Cultivate an appreciation of farm homes and country life.

The noble men of God, eloquent statesmen, men of science, and that grand line of business men who had their rise and nursing on the old farm among the hills—many of them—of the old Pine Tree State.

Then let us act, let us plan in behalf of the cause of education; and while we plan, let it be in the interest of agriculture. Educate the young all within our means, mindful to impress upon him that we look to him as our advocate and protector.

We need him in our halls of legislation that our rights may be secured, and that we may the better direct him. Let us adopt such ways of educating ourselves as will the better prepare us to render aid and advice. In conclusion we urge into our common schools text books that teach the elements of the sciences underlying intelligent and skillful agriculture. No law will execute itself, no law will be executed for whose execution there is no felt demand. Let the demand be felt by school officers and school teachers. Tolerate no retrograde movement.

"It is not growing like a tree. In bulk, do make man better be; Or standing an oak, three hundred year; To fall a log at last, dry, bald and bare; A life of day is fairer far in May—It was the plant and flower of light. In sun and showers we must be seen, And in short measures life may perfect be."

Educate the younger members of the family that upon a desirable farm there is as good a promise of wealth as in any other avocations of life. Let the Grange take up the strain, and never rest until it has shown to the world that it is striving to be what it claims for itself, an educator of the human race.

(Signed) L. O. STRAW, Chairman. Accepted and adopted. A dispatch was received from the New Hampshire State Grange, now assembled at Manchester, congratulating the patrons of Maine; also from the State Grange of Massachusetts.

Answers were sent to both of the sister States. Prof. Hamlin of Orono presented a resolution in regard to the roads of the State; the same was not adopted.

Thursday—Last Day. Charles Buffum moved a reconsideration of the vote not to adopt the resolution in regard to legislation on road building. The motion prevailed, and the resolution was laid on the table.

Mrs. C. J. Herring, chairman of the committee on good of the order reported, and the report was adopted. The resolution of I. J. Porter in regard to raising the State dues per quarter from three to six cents, was indefinitely postponed.

The original resolution in regard to road-building was adopted. It provides for the appointment by the legislature of a commission of three persons, who shall investigate the question with reference to the condition of the roads in the State, and the best methods to keep them in good condition and repair. The commissioners to report to the session of the following legislature.

T. J. Carle offered a resolution in favor of the free delivery of mail in rural districts. Adopted.

The special committee to whom was referred the matter of buying agricultural implements reported, and the report was accepted and adopted.

On motion of B. F. Hamilton, voted that the executive committee take measures to incorporate the Maine State Grange.

E. E. Light, chairman of committee on agriculture, reported and the report was adopted.

J. W. Ricker, chairman of the committee on "Subordinate Granges, their conduct and method of entertainment," reported, and the report was adopted.

Mrs. H. J. Harriman, chairman of committee on "Woman's Work in the Grange," reported, and the report was adopted.

H. J. Harriman, chairman of committee on dormant Granges, reported, and the report was adopted.

Horse Department.

Give a warm bran mash once a week to each horse. It will be relished by them, and serve as an appetizer and corrective of the bowels.

Be sure not to feed an excess of hay, but let a fair grain ration be added and the hay reduced. There may not be as full a barrel, as distended a belly, but there will be more comfort and better condition as well as service.

Have a house cleaning on some of these warm days and make the air of the stable purer and sweeter. Clear out the cobwebs which accumulate overhead, ventilate thoroughly and follow the custom of the tidy housewife by keeping the stable neat and attractive, as well as pure and healthy.

Make the barns warm for the winter. If the cold gets in to reduce the temperature, the fuel of the body will be consumed in helping keep the animal warm, whereas if the stalls are kept just above the freezing point, not over forty, the food will do the animal the greatest good and the expense will be reduced to the minimum.

It makes us think better of our kind, says *Rural Life*, to hear that a law in Massachusetts and in the District of Columbia affirms that any one cutting the solid part of the tail of a horse, assisting in doing it, or having it done, for the purpose of shortening the tail, unless it can be proved to benefit the horse, shall be imprisoned in jail, not exceeding one year, and fined not less than \$100.

A horse which is not halter broken until four years old, "to save his strength," as some say, will never be more than half a horse. There is no question about the necessity for early training with all our animals, not only to fix characteristics but also to let them know of what they are capable, and how to make the best use of their powers. Educate, educate, educate. There can never be too much intelligence in man, or beast.

A correspondent of the *Spirit of the Hub* recently paid a visit to the veteran New England horseman and breeder, Joshua Wilkins, and details the following sound observation by the old gentleman: "Well, Mr. Wilkins, the bottom has dropped out of this fast-horse business, has it not?" I asked. "Young man, you have got a wrong idea. The bottom is there as solid as ever, but there is a lot of chaff being sifted through the screen. Men of brains and means are breeding better, sounder and stronger. They are caring for their stock better, and have a care to see that it grows in the summer's heat as well as in the cold of winter. The world moves, a greater number of young men are in existence to-day than ever and the number is increasing. Wealth is multiplying and good horses are as essential to the world's good as they were in ancient days."

It is not luck but downright skill which tells in horse breeding as everywhere else. No man can succeed who goes at the business blindly year after year. A fortunate union may be made but the industry rests upon a different basis. A man may invest in a lottery and draw a prize, but there is no foundation to the business and no certainty that another will ever be forthcoming for him. Far too many men have been going on year after year in horse breeding hoping all the while to draw a prize and acting as though that was the only way to make a dollar. Each year sees a nearer approach to a fixedness in breeding, and though we are still a long way from it the only way to get there will be by the use of the brains of the breeder. Skill and energy are the essentials of the industry as never before.

What are to be the service fees the coming year? While it is right and proper for every man to get all he can, it still becomes a question whether the industry wouldn't be fostered and more money realized by bringing the fees down within the reach of those of moderate means. Something needs to be done to check the use of the cheaper class of stallions, those of inferior breeding or wanting individuality, and the only way seems to be to bring the fees down where the better ones can be secured for those of moderate means.

With the fact recognized that there is no room for breeding save of the best, it becomes necessary that a step be put to this to offer something better at the same or nearly the same price. For

one we believe the man who does this will be the gainer in a few years' time.

Oats are said by a scientist to have an exciting power on a horse. The effect on the nerves and muscles were tested after eating oats and compared with their excitability before eating. Old horsemen know that oats will make a horse more lively or active than any other grain. They contain nerve and muscle food, or the elements to supply the wear and waste of these parts, and no doubt they stimulate them also. They contain, according to this authority, a nitrogenized substance peculiar to themselves. All oats contain this peculiar property, but the black oats have the most. When oats are ground the exciting effect is reduced in strength and duration, but its effects are more active. This peculiar substance is called avenine. The soil where oats are grown makes a difference in the amount of avenine produced. Further investigation must be made to determine the kind of soil best adapted to produce the nerve power of the oats.

A breezy letter in a late *Horseman*, well illustrates how the proprietor of a breeding establishment must have his eye and hand on the details of the work in order for success.

"It is the general supposition that Senator Stanford of California is merely a thinking and theoretical horseman, who breeds his trotters as a man upon an editorial staff breeds them, but as a matter of fact there is not a breeder in the country, who, for the time which he can give them, takes a more absorbing and intimate interest in his horses than the aged Senator. A man of affairs like Senator Stanford, who is managing great institutions and great investments, cannot spend all of his time around his fast products, however fascinating they may be to him, but whenever he is at his country place at Palo Alto, the greater portion of his time is passed around the stables.

The figure of the old Senator sitting in an armchair under one of the immense oaks that border the Palo Alto tracks, is a familiar one to the visitors to the country, who for the time which he can give them, takes a more absorbing and intimate interest in his horses than the aged Senator. A man of affairs like Senator Stanford, who is managing great institutions and great investments, cannot spend all of his time around his fast products, however fascinating they may be to him, but whenever he is at his country place at Palo Alto, the greater portion of his time is passed around the stables.

The nearest thing we find to the horse shoe of to-day was found in the grave of an old king of France who died in 481. There were four nail holes in the shoe, and this is the first mention of nailing on a shoe. It might be well to notice just here the fact that the horse shoe "kept evil spirits away" even as long ago as in the days of this old king, 1500 years ago, and, was doubtless placed on his grave for this purpose. A writer in the *Philadelphia Times* says: "The superstition that associates the horse shoe with luck is very old and prevails all through Europe and in Southern Asia. Nobody can seem to settle whether it is the iron of which it is made or its shape that brings good luck. The ancients believed that iron had wonderful power, and when Arabs are overtaken by great storms they cry 'Iron! Iron!' which they do to propitiate the evil spirits in charge of the storm. * * * As to its shape, a crescent was a form much favored by all nations. The Chinese build tombs in this shape and so do the Moors." It was lucky to have a horse around in olden times, and so the writer sums up the luck of a horse shoe as found in three qualities which it possesses: "It is made of iron, it is the shape of a crescent, and it has been worn by a horse."

HIS MOTHER'S SONGS.

THE MYSTERIES OF LIFE.

fell to the ground. They

SURROUNDED BY WOLVES

Our cattle gave one long bellow, and

Jerry and I would each take our turn getting wood for our fire while the

All druggists sell it at 50c. and \$1 a package. If you cannot get it, send your address for a free sample. **Lane's Family Medicine moves the bowels** each day. In order to be healthy this is necessary. Address **ORATOR F. WOODWARD LE ROY, N. Y.**

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Prolific Poultry Food,

Lowiston (upper) 7.20 A. M., and 11.10 A. M., and 4.20 P. M.; leave Lowiston (lower) 6.50 and

IGUSTA SAVINGS BANK

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Dividends **7** Per Cent

The undersigned will sell at

LENDALL TITCOMB, of John Barrows.
Augusta, Dec. 15, 1892. 367

KENNEBEC COUNTY...*In Probate Court*
at Augusta on the second Monday of

farmer, a newspaper printed in Augusta, that
all persons interested may attend at a Court of

court to be held at Augusta, on the second Monday of January next and show cause, if

ORDERED, that notice thereof be given three weeks successively, prior to the second Monday of January next in the Maine

Items of Maine News.

Mrs. C. A. Young has been appointed postmistress at South Waterford, vice William W. Watson, resigned.

There is some prospect of Ellsworth's having an electric street railway in the near future.

The foundation is laid and frame up for the new Camden grist mill. It will be a little larger than the old one.

The plant of the National Carving Company is soon to be removed from Lynn, Mass., to Lewiston.

Mr. Charles R. Coombs of Belfast has this season killed 96 woodcock and 30 partridges.

A new Loan and Building Association has been organized at Presque Isle. G. H. Collins is President.

A bull belonging to Joseph Goodier of Saco, got loose recently and killed one cow and injured two others.

A Village Improvement Association will be organized in Caribou during January.

The Camden people miss their hall more than anything else, since the big fire.

The Secretary of the Navy has directed that the gunboats whose hulls were built at the Bath Iron Works shall be fitted out there also.

The name of the post office at North Hammond, Cumberland county, has been changed to Wilson Springs, with the same postmaster.

Mrs. Hiram Sally of New Portland, who was so dreadfully burned last Friday morning by her clothing taking fire, died Sunday morning.

It seems to be quite unnecessary to say, after the severe cold snap, that all the rivers of the State are closed to navigation.

Shaw's tannery at New Limerick has again resumed business. A carload of hides were received at the tannery last week.

Mr. Jefferson Nealey of Monroe, has just returned from New York where he has been to have a foot and leg made of rubber. His leg was amputated about half way between the knee and ankle.

James M. Perkins, a farmer of North Berwick, hanged himself in his barn Christmas day. Mental derangement occasioned by grip was the cause. He leaves a wife and six children.

Samuel Willoughby of Nashua, N. H., was found dead in bed at the residence of his brother, J. S. Willoughby in Rockland, Saturday morning. He was 74 years of age.

Willard F. Brown Hanson of Skowhegan, was found hanging by the neck, dead, in his stable Monday morning, by neighbors. He lived alone. He was about 40 years old, and was considered not just right mentally.

Following the precedent recently established by a Vermont judge, Judge Cram of Biddeford, on Monday morning, suspended the sentence of a prisoner and gave him a chance to go to a Keeley institute.

The West Branch Sardine Co., at West Pembroke, closed the season's business last week, after running quite steadily since midsummer. They report the same as all others engaged in this industry, that it has been a very unsatisfactory year from a financial standpoint.

Wearied with what seemed an endless struggle with wasting disease, Jarvis W. Hand, 18 years old, a student at the Philadelphia Dental College, from Ludlow, Arrostook county, blew out his brains Thursday afternoon in his boarding house.

The Livermore Falls Pulp and Paper Co., was organized last week, with Caleb Smith, President, Hon. Alvin Record, Treasurer, and H. C. Whitmore, Clerk. Capital stock, two hundred thousand dollars. Mills will be erected immediately.

Samuel V. Green of Kennebunk, who was recently indicted in the United States District Court of Concord, N. H., on three counts for committing pension frauds, received his sentence Thursday. He goes to the New Hampshire State Prison for three years.

Nelson F. Evans, formerly of Fryeburg, who was recently convicted of misappropriating the funds of the Spring Garden National Bank, Philadelphia, of which he was a director, has been sentenced to pay a fine of \$200 and to serve seven years in the penitentiary.

Miss Susan Porter of Burlington whose mysterious illness and remarkable fact have been mentioned in the *Farmer*, died Wednesday night. She had been without food for 51 days, taking no nourishment whatever during that time except a very little tea, with a few spoonfuls of milk added.

In South Bristol and vicinity more than fifty buildings have been erected in the last ten years. These include hotels, stores, club houses, dwellings and cottages, and with a few exceptions they are ornamental and substantial. Many older establishments have been enlarged and improved.

Friday evening Frank Conley while drunk, went into the house of Mrs. De Long in Portland, and became quarrelsome. He pointed a revolver at her husband and finally fired at a girl employed in the kitchen, but did not hit her. He then ran, but was chased by the police and captured.

A second narrow escape from suffocation from coal gas occurred one night last week, at H. Fletcher's South Paris. Mr. F. awoke Wednesday morning with a terrible headache. He threw the windows open. He found Mrs. F. in an unconscious condition, and she was very sick through the day, but is recovering.

Mrs. James Bradley of Portland expects to receive from an estate in Ireland \$50,000 with interest since 1850. She says that she intends to start for Ireland in the spring and that her lawyer advises her that her chances to secure the sum are very good. Mrs. Bradley's main name was Mary Golden and she is the sister of Richard Golden of Jed Prouty fame.

Dr. Charles E. Webster, a leading physician of Portland, died suddenly Saturday morning, of partial paralysis and pneumonia. He was a graduate of Bowdoin College in 1860, and at the Medical School of Maine in 1869. He was fifty-one years old and had a wife and one child. Dr. Webster was well known to the medical profession throughout the State.

The Maine Eye and Ear Infirmary in Portland, was dedicated Friday evening. Ira P. Farrington, President of the association, presided. Charles King read the address of the building committee and an address was then delivered by Dr. E. E. Holt. Remarks were made by Mayor Ingraham, Dr. S. H. Weeks, Dr. S. C. Gordon, Dr. L. W. Pendleton, Dr. Dudley F. Libby and others.

Some of new buildings have been erected in Camden the present year. Of these one is the Mt. Battle woolen mill, costing \$60,000. The balance include three summer residences, several stores, a burned district, and new dwelling houses. The estimated value of all is \$140,000, which more than offsets the buildings destroyed by the late fire.

The greater part of the loss by the recent fire was personal property. No buildings were destroyed this year were destroyed.

The fishing smack Twilight, Capt.

Bain, was towed to Boothbay Harbor Friday by the fishing schooner Wide Awake. She was dismasted off Small Point, Thursday afternoon, in a squall. Capt. Bain had one boy with him and the wind and sea ran high great difficulty was experienced in reaching the Wide Awake. A number of vessels had already considered it an impossibility and passed without a trial but Capt. Cook of the Wide Awake finally succeeded in reaching port Friday.

On Saturday two Frenchmen named Joseph Bouchard and Alphonsse Vassar came into the village of Sherman's Mills, horribly beaten with clubs. Their story is they met with two men who seemed to be celebrating the holidays by getting drunk, on Silver Ridge, and when joined by two more like characters, took one pair of horses which Bouchard and Vassar were leading behind their sled to the village to be shot, and the horses were left in the hands of the ruffians, the assaulted parties being glad to escape alive. Each has a very bad scalp wound besides being otherwise badly hurt.

GRANGE NEWS AND NOTES.

—Oak Hill Grange of Scarborough have elected the following officers:

Master—M. P. Hunnewell.
Overseer—B. Scott Larrabee.
Lecturer—Mrs. M. P. Hunnewell.
Steward—Edward S. Fogg.

Assistant Steward—H. W. Tupper.
Chaplain—Henry S. Jones.
Treasurer—Benj. Larrabee.
Secretary—Walter B. Nutter.

Gate Keeper—W. S. Libby.
Pomona—Mrs. B. Scott Larrabee.
Ceres—Mrs. Benj. Larrabee.
Flora—Mrs. Henry S. Jones.

Lady Ass't Steward—Myrtle Deering.
—At the meeting of Fryeburg Grange, held Saturday evening, Dec. 17th, the following officers were elected:

Master—John F. Charles.
Overseer—John S. Ames.
Lecturer—B. W. McKeen.
Steward—Henry B. Eastman.

Assistant Steward—Eugene Hill.
Chaplain—Simeon Charles.
Treasurer—M. M. Smart.
Secretary—James Hobbs.

Gate Keeper—George A. Charles.
Pomona—Mrs. J. S. Ames.
Flora—Susie H. Hobbins.
Ceres—Mrs. J. F. Charles.

Lady Ass't Steward—Susie Charles.
Organist—Carrie Emerson.
Executive Committee—B. W. McKeen, M. M. Smart, H. K. Hobbs.

Finance Committee—B. W. McKeen, David H. Chandler, William Sturtevant.
—Hebron Grange elected the following officers Dec. 7th:

Master—D. F. Cummings.
Overseer—Herbert Greenwood.
Lecturer—C. H. George.

Steward—C. A. Martens.
Assistant Steward—F. W. Cushman.
Treasurer—S. P. Cushman.
Secretary—C. W. Cummings.

Chaplain—Fred Marston.
Gate Keeper—Arthur Cummings.
Pomona—Ellen Packard.
Flora—Dulcinea A. Hibbs.

Ceres—Mrs. D. F. Cummings.
Lady Ass't Steward—Mrs. Edith Cushman.
—Excelsior Grange No. 4, P. of H., met according to notice with North Jay Grange the 15th inst., and though the weather was rather threatening, and the F. B. quarterly meeting was in session, there were about seventy present.

The Worthy Overseer, Chaplain, Secretary, Gate Keeper, Flora and Lady Assistant Steward were installed, and subordinate Granges reported in the forenoon. Then, after an excellent dinner, a class of ten was initiated. An address of welcome was given by Sister Nellie F. Kyes, response by Bro. E. H. Ridley of Jay Bridge Grange. The literary entertainment, furnished by North Jay Grange, consisted of music, select readings, a declamation, and an amusing dialogue. Bro. R. W. Kyes and wife were chosen delegates to the State Grange.

—At the last regular meeting of the Charlotte Grange the following officers were elected for the coming year:

Master—C. L. Bridges.
Overseer—F. J. Dana.
Lecturer—F. J. Sprague.

Steward—W. E. Fisher.
Assistant Steward—H. B. Young.
Chaplain—E. E. Swan.
Treasurer—Leonard Fisher.

Secretary—D. J. Fisher.
Gate Keeper—John Spear.
Pomona—Mrs. Jesse Sprague.
Flora—Mrs. W. H. Ayers.

Ceres—Mrs. C. L. Bridges.
Lady Assistant Steward—Miss Susie Fisher.
—White Oak Grange elected the following officers Dec. 9th:

Master—E. T. Benner.
Overseer—E. V. Anderson.
Lecturer—Mrs. G. B. Young.

Steward—F. J. Sprague.
Assistant Steward—George Benner.
Chaplain—L. Kalkoff.
Treasurer—G. Y. Martin.

Secretary—D. D. Bisbee.
Gate Keeper—Charles Spear.
Pomona—Linda Kalkoff.
Flora—Hattie Bowes.

Ceres—Eva Burnham.
Lady Ass't Steward—Mabel Fuller.
—Cobbescoone Grange No. 100, of West Gardiner, elected officers Dec. 20th, and will have a public installation the first Tuesday in January, in the afternoon. Following are the officers:

Master—G. R. M. Wentworth.
Overseer—F. E. Towle.
Lecturer—Mrs. Alice Towle.

Steward—Mrs. Alice Towle.
Assistant Steward—E. Farr.
Chaplain—E. Jackson.
Treasurer—E. Ware.

Secretary—Mrs. Celia J. Davis.
Gate Keeper—W. H. Davis.
Ceres—Mrs. Nettie DeFratus.
Pomona—Lizzie H. French.

Flora—Mrs. Jennie L. Pinkham.
Lady Ass't Steward—Mrs. Lettie Pinkham.
—The Turner Grange, reported by Secretary Allen, with 262 members, and as second in size in the State, now claims a still better standing. Secretary Allen's report was made up to the first of September, since which time the Turner Grange has initiated nineteen new members, thus bringing its numbers at the present time up to 281, and with still more coming. Give the deserving their due. What gives this Grange its phenomenal standing? Efficient officers, active members, and money. There are some Granges that might well take a pointer from this.

—Cumberland County Pomona's November meeting was with Westbrook Grange, Nov. 12th. Address of welcome by Sister Shenoc, which in itself con-

tained many beautiful ideas, subjects for both thought and study, was given by the Lecturer. The question box was then called for, and readily responded to by members called to give answers. Dinner was announced, and all repaired to the dining hall, where the most fastidious appetite could but be satisfied with the variety of eatables set before them. After dinner came the ladies' hour, which was very entertaining, and gave credit to the talent in Westbrook Grange. The following question was then taken up for discussion: "Does a Farmer's Success Depend upon his Wife? If so, to What Extent?" Opened by Bro. Griggs of Westbrook Grange, aff., Augustus Jones of Presumpscot, neg., Charles Stuart of Pleasant River, aff., Will McConkey, neg. It then being open to the house many others gave their opinions. Decided in the affirmative. Extended a vote of thanks to Westbrook Grange for their hospitality. It being then four o'clock all started for home, well pleased with a day so well spent. The next county meeting will be with Oak Hill Grange at Scarborough. The forenoon will be devoted to electing the officers for the coming year. In the afternoon will take up the following question: "Resolved, That a tariff on all agricultural productions, including the tools and machinery used in that industry, would be beneficial to the community at large." Peter Stuart of Pleasant River, and A. E. Jordan of Cape Elizabeth, aff.; S. B. Gunnison of Oak Hill, and Henry Johnson of Gosham, neg.

LECTURER.

—Editor Maine Farmer: We are pleased to note the fact that Fort Fairfield Grange No. 262, which for the past year has been on the verge of expiring, has aroused from its lethargy and evinced a determination to build up its usefulness and membership to a position becoming the noble purposes of the order. At the last regular meeting the following were elected to fill the offices for the coming year:

Master—I. H. Kipp.
Overseer—William Houghton.
Lecturer—H. C. Townsend.

Steward—James Johnston.
Assistant Steward—Roderick Powers.
Chaplain—Sumner Seabury.
Treasurer—Hugh Munce.

Secretary—Frank P. Grant.
Gate Keeper—Edith M. Haines.
Ceres—Lizzie H. Kipp.
Pomona—Mrs. Wm. Houghton.

Flora—Leila Herrick.
Lady Assistant Steward—Elizabeth Powers.
There will be a public installation and harvest supper the first Tuesday in January. Worthy Deputy C. Hayford has been invited to conduct the installation ceremonies.

Fort Fairfield. H. C. TOWNSEND.
—The following are the officers elected for 1893 by Pleasant River Grange, Milo: Master—Isaac E. Hobbins.

Overseer—Lyman Herrick.
Lecturer—Ira F. Hobbins.
Steward—Ephraim E. Severance.

Assistant Steward—John W. Monroe.
Chaplain—Simeon Charles.
Treasurer—Benjamin F. Manter.
Secretary—Lydia J. Hobbins.

Gate Keeper—John B. Stanchfield.
Ceres—Elsie E. Sherburne.
Pomona—Sarah A. Stanchfield.
Flora—Fannie N. Herrick.

Lady Ass't Steward—Sarah J. Manter.
—Winsor Grange has elected the following officers:

Master—Mrs. Viola Mosher.
Overseer—Mrs. Nellie Barton.
Lecturer—Mrs. M. A. Barker.

Steward—Mrs. G. H. Pierce.
Assistant Steward—Lizzie Colburn.
Treasurer—Mrs. Eliza Colburn.

Secretary—Mrs. Emma Reeves.
Gate Keeper—Hannah Reeves.
Ceres—Mrs. E. H. Mosher.
Pomona—Mrs. J. H. Barton.

Flora—Mrs. Frank Baker.
Lady Ass't Steward—Frank Colburn.

ACCIDENTS.

Friday night Lorenzo D. Knight, of Westbrook, attempted to drive two yoke of oxen and a load of logs across the Maine Central track in Deering. He was hit by the flying Yankee, killing Mr. Knight instantly, his skull being crushed.

He was a mover of buildings in Westbrook and was sixty years old. One yoke of oxen was also killed.

As Mr. Greenleaf Blethen, of Foxcroft, was at work in Hubbard's sash and blind factory in Dover, his left hand came in contact with a circular saw in motion, cutting off the ends of the thumb and second finger, and inflicting a deep gash upon the inner side of the hand and across the ball of the thumb.

Edward Allen of Jonesport accidentally shot himself in the leg Wednesday. The leg was amputated Friday, and he died Friday night. He leaves a wife and seven children.

Mr. Eugene Carr met with a painful accident at his brother's blacksmith shop in South Norridgewood, Thursday. His pants got caught in the gearing of a hot air engine, drawing his leg into the gear until nine cogs had punctured the skin, when the resistance stopped the machine. One cog was broken off and left in the flesh.

Monday morning, about 11 o'clock, Mr. Joseph McLaughlin, who works in the liquor room of the Forest Paper Company, Yarmouthville, stepped into one of the tanks of hot liquor, badly burning his left leg from foot to knee.

A ten-year-old son of Michael Sheedy of Rockland lost an eye last week from an arrow fired by a young companion.

Helen, the second daughter of Charles S. Hamlin of East Waterford, while sliding, was accidentally run against by a sled and had both bones of her leg broken just above the ankle.

Harry, aged 12, son of S. W. Burbank of Livermore Falls, skated off the ice into the channel in the river Tuesday night and was drowned. The body has not yet been recovered.

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Rev. J. F. Rhoades, pastor of the Universalist church, Biddeford, raised by subscription Monday \$800 of the \$2000 necessary to repair the church and grade the lot.

The Second Congregational church of Biddeford has voted to extend a call to Rev. A. L. Snyder, a Methodist clergyman at Tilbury Centre, Ont.

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The Most Famous Authors Contribute to

THE YOUTH'S COMPANION

Articles have been written for 1893 by

Sir Edwin Arnold—Rudyard Kipling.

The Jungle Kingdoms of India by Sir Edwin Arnold. The Story of my Boyhood by Rudyard Kipling.

The following Eminent Contributors will have important articles in the Volume for 1893:

Frank R. Stockton. The Dean of Westminster. The Dean of St. Paul's. Gen. Lew Wallace. F. Hopkinson Smith. Archibald Forbes. W. Clark Russell. Sir Henry Thompson. Justin McCarthy. The Marquis of Lorne. Lord Playfair. Charles Dickens.

New Subscribers who send \$1.75 at once will receive The Companion Free to Jan. 1, 1893, and for a full year from that date, including the Double Numbers for Christmas and New Year. The Souvenir of The Companion, describing the New Building, 42 pages, in colors, will be sent FREE to any one requesting it who sends a subscription. (Check, Money-Order or Registered Letter.)

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Necessary alike to the merchant, the manufacturer, the preacher and the farmer. Practical knowledge is real power, the only question then will be, where to get it. While so many so-called Business Colleges and Business Departments tacked on to classical schools are sending out pupils dissatisfied and poorly equipped for business, no one ever found a graduate of the

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STUDENTS CAN ENTER ANY MONTH IN THE YEAR EXCEPT JULY AND AUGUST.

MENTION THIS PAPER IN ASKING FOR A CATALOGUE.

R. B. CAPEN, Principal, AUGUSTA, MAINE.

HELP WANTED!

A large number of hands on the Factory, at the MAINE MANUFACTURING COMPANY, corner Broad and Park streets, ROCKLAND, MAINE. For girls make as high as \$7 per week. Board can be secured \$2.50 up. 267

Fragrant and Lasting. Elegant Sachet tins, by return mail, upon the receipt of 10c. FRANK R. FARRINGTON, Augusta, Maine.

Among the Cannibals.

Advices from the South Seas of some bloody events have been received. The Kanaka crew of the French vessel Constantine murdered the captain and mate, looted the vessel and turned her adrift. She went on a reef and became a total wreck. M. Passin, owner of the Constantine, was shot on the first of October, as was also Capt. Marie, whose corpse was cooked for a feast. Four Kanakas, who attempted to rescue the captain, were massacred.

While the vessel named Three Cheers was at Fean Island, an attempt was made to arrest the chief and his son, who had murdered a trader named Coe. When Capt. Stade of the Three Cheers demanded the chief he was shot dead by the latter's son. Captain Stade's murderer was subsequently captured and shot.

While the schooner Clara Jackson was anchored off Admiralty Islands, her mate put off in a boat manned by three of the crew to trade. While bartering the mate was struck across the neck with a hatchet. The mate drew a revolver and fired into the crew of natives. Captain Buchanan put off to the rescue, and in the general fight all the members of the crew were wounded, one fatally.

The first envelope ever made is said to be in the possession of the London museum.

FIRES IN MAINE.

The grist mill at Knightsville, owned by M. A. K. Soule, and occupied by Elbridge Mathews, burned Wednesday night. Loss \$4000. Insured.

A dwelling known as the old Salisbury house on Eden street, Bar Harbor, was burned Friday afternoon. It was owned by Mr. Pike of Philadelphia, and was occupied by Willard and David Haywood as a boarding house. The fire caught from a defective flue in the ell. The loss is small. The household effects were saved.

A car containing 160 barrels of choice green apples belonging to Hiram Morrill of Buckfield, caught fire at East Hebron station, Thursday morning, and the top of the car and the apples were ruined. The fire caught from a stove in the car.

Fire in Auburn, Thursday, burned F. R. Conant & Co.'s planing mill and box factory; S. H. Fellows & Co.'s machine shop, and F. T. Fuller's leather board factory. The buildings and contents are a total loss. Conant & Co.'s loss is \$5000; Fellows & Co.'s, \$5000; Fuller's, \$3500. The fire caught in the boiler room of Conant & Co.'s planing mill.

The Works saw mill, situated about six miles from Guilford village, in the town of Abbot, was destroyed by fire, Thursday afternoon, together with a blacksmith shop and one dwelling house and some lumber. This is the second time saw mills have been burned at this place.

Fire was discovered at 11.40 Thursday forenoon, in one of the buildings of Charles Bolley, contractor in Skowhegan. The fire caught on the roof. A heavy wind was blowing, and the building was badly damaged.

The oil cloth factory building of C. M. Bailey's Sons & Co., in Skowhegan, caught fire, Thursday, on the roof. The fire department got a stream on from a hydrant, and although the wind blew heavily, succeeded in extinguishing the fire. A delay of a few minutes would have sacrificed the whole plant, and caused heavy damage.

Fire, Monday forenoon, seriously damaged four tenement dwelling houses in Orono, owned by the Bangor Pulp and Paper Company. The fire caught in

Manager Rice's part, from the chimney. The houses were built last year, and cost five thousand dollars. They were insured. The furniture was badly damaged, with no insurance. It was bitterly cold, and the firemen worked like heroes.

A ten-year-old son of Michael Sheedy of Rockland lost an eye last week from an arrow fired by a young companion.

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There is no medicine for coughs and colds like the U. S. Gold Cough Cure prepared and sold by our reliable chemist and apothecary, Charles K. Partridge, opposite the Post Office. It has a large sale in this vicinity and receives the endorsement of many physicians who usually see but little merit in "put up" preparations.

Mr. Anthony White, of Presque Isle, has a hound that leads a life of usefulness quite in contrast with that of the average Presque Isle canine. This dog hauls his master to and from his work, a distance of several miles, night and morning, and has also done good service hauling cedar sleepers, from four to five being a fair load for him.

The other day a can of corn that was packed by Mr. J. H. Barberic for the Portland Packing Company in 1862, was opened just 30 years afterwards and the corn was found in fine condition. The can was found on the farm of Stephen Grant, Westbrook.

Poetry.

For the Maine Farmer.

THE CHOPPER.

BY G. E. L.

I hear the sound of the chopper's axe,
As blow after blow is piled,
I hear the echo ring and ring
Throughout the forest wide.

The chopper is busy, day by day
He piles the glowing steel,
Working when the frost bites cold,
And the blood will run congeal.

But it matters little of stinging cold,
Of snow or winter's woe,
With merry whistle he goes to his work,
Across the frozen heather.

He thinks of his wife and children three,
Of love, and the dear home ties;
And he whistles now a braver tune,
As to work he quickly hies.

With the love he bears the dear ones
He works on, day after day,
Meeting with kind smiles,
As he comes from work each day.

'Tis enough for him, the kisses sweet,
For the love of his own dear wife,
And the babies' own sweet love,
Sweetens the work of life.

'Tis not a hard life for the chopper,
For the love of his own dear wife,
And the babies' own sweet love,
Sweetens the work of life.

I hear the ring of glittering steel,
And the thought will ever come,
When done for love, all work is play,
And the dear ones that are at home.

And he who works for loving ones,
And bears true love for them,
Has gained life's true happiness—
A bright and precious gem.

Pittsfield.

TO-MORROW.

High hopes that buried like stars sublime
Go down the heavens of freedom,
And true hearts that perish in the time
We bitter need them;

But never sit down and say,
There's nothing left but sorrow;
Walk the wilderness to-day,
We promised to-morrow.

Our hearts brood o'er the past, our eyes
With smiling features glaze;
Lo! now its dawn bursts up the sky—
Lean out your soul and gaze.

The earth rolls freedom's radiant way,
And ripens with the sun's glow;
And in the martyrdom to-day
Brings victory to-morrow.

'Tis weary watching way by way;
We climb like leaden graves;
And beat a pathway through
We beaten land to-morrow.

Yet never stand and say,
There's nothing left but sorrow;
Walk the wilderness to-day,
We promised to-morrow.

Through all the long, dark night of years,
The people's cry ascended;
The heart was wet with blood and tears
Ere their work suffered ended.

The few shall not forever stay,
The many toil in sorrow;
The bars of hell are strong to-day,
But Christ shall reign to-morrow.

Our Story Teller.

The Captain's Double Capture.
How a Rebel Officer Won the Heart of a
Daughter of Northern Sympathizers During
the War.

A man clad in a federal uniform and
mounted on a broken-down horse stood
gazing anxiously about him. He was
tired and very hungry; his horse was
as bad a plight; the sun had set; where
should he rest for the night?

Captain Fairlie was one of Morgan's
men. Indeed, he belonged to his staff.
It was not a very enviable position at
present, for Morgan had been captured,
and his command, defeated, dispersed,
were trying to find their way singly or
in squads back into Dixie.

In the sacking of a lot of government
stores at the beginning of the raid, Cap-
tain Fairlie had found a box containing
a federal captain's uniform and had donned
it, with no thought of playing spy, but
simply that it was new and his old and
faded. Now if would stand him in good
stead in helping him to make his escape.

What should he do? Where should he
go? He had left the turnpike and taken
to a bridge across a wood as safe.
But the thought of camping there and
going supperless to bed was sad indeed.

Just then a girl, mounted on a hand-
some thoroughbred, came riding along the
woods and struck into the road a little
ahead of him. Following this uncon-
scious guide he had reached a house set
back in a grove. The young lady had
disappeared but the traveler, rendered
destitute by hunger, determined on a
bold move. He would pass himself off
for a federal quartermaster purchasing
forage, and that, he thought, would in-
sure him a welcome. Whether the owner
was Union or Confederate he did not
know, but he was determined to see the
farmer would be averse to selling hay.

He accordingly rode boldly up to the
door and dismounting, told the gentle-
man his business and then, as he con-
sidered the matter, he saw that his host
proved to be a strong Unionist, and the
danger he had run of having his hay
snatched by Morgan's command now
made him anxious to dispose of it be-
fore any further trouble should befall
him. He found in Captain Fairlie a very liberal
business man; he agreed to pay his very
good price for the hay and to buy his en-
tire crop.

This put Mr. Lane in a high good
humor, and the visitor had every atten-
tion showed him, while his horse was
taken round to the stable and cared for.
"He seems badly used up," observed
Mr. Lane.

"I had the luck to run afoul of a squad
of Morgan's men and had to run for it.
The rascals gave chase, though what
they wanted to hamper themselves with
me for I could not imagine. However,
they quit me and I am here, for I did
not hanker after their society."

"No; I should not; marauding wretches!
I am indeed glad of the fate that has
overtaken Morgan. I wish the whole
crew could follow the general to the
penitentiary. It is where they all be-
long."

"They would rather crowd the build-
ing," said Captain Fairlie, laughing.
"As you spoke Mr. Lane uttered his
guest into the parlor, where his daughter
sat playing the piano, and Captain Fairlie
at once recognized his guide. She be-
stowed upon the officer, when introduced,
a cold bow and resumed her playing,
though in a softer key."

"I wouldn't care if they did find the
penitentiary snug quarters; pack them
in; I feel no mercy for them," said Mr.
Lane, savagely.

"But they are human creatures, papa,"
said the girl, turning around from the
instrument.

"They don't act much like 'em," said
her father, dryly, "destroying and steal-
ing things as they do."

"But all that is done in war," said
the girl.

"Don't argue with me, Lida," cried
her father. "Suppose one of Morgan's
men should walk off with Pet, how would
you feel?"

"A wretched sorrow," said she, smiling.
"Of course, and nothing saved him but
the defeat of the wretches."

"In sure the federal press horses,"
said the girl.

"I don't care if they do, that is a differ-
ent case. All good citizens will sustain
the government."

"I don't think so," cried the girl.
"How can you think otherwise?"
asked Captain Fairlie. "I am surprised
to hear you advance such sentiments."

"Your surprise is of no moment to me,
sir," said she, haughtily.

"My daughter?" began the father.
"Well, it isn't papa; this is a free
country—or said to be—and every one
has a right to an opinion—and my opin-
ions are all Confederate," said she, look-
ing the captain defiantly in the face.

"I am truly thankful that you have
nothing but opinions, and that Morgan
and his rascals never reached here, or
you would have ruined me."

"But, papa—"
"We won't discuss it," said her father,
leaving the room. The girl rose to fol-
low him. "Return and entertain the gen-
tleman," said he, in a low voice. "Do
you wish my property confiscated on the
plea of Southern sympathizing, and all
for your nonsense?"

Lida returned to her seat with height-
ened color and downcast eyes.
"I cannot understand," said Captain
Fairlie, "how you came to have such
rebel sentiments."

No answer.
"Did you ever see any of Morgan's
men?"

"No."
"Perhaps if you had they would have
disenchanted you."

"Likely," said she.
"A lot of dirty, thieving ragamuffins."
"You will oblige me, sir, by not dis-
cussing them."

Captain Fairlie now shifted the con-
versation round and praised the Federal
troops, till his companion, who preserved
profound silence, looked as if she could
have boxed his ears. He was mean
enough to enjoy teasing her, feeling how
safe his Union sentiments were.

So he chatted on and on, Lida preserv-
ing a scornful silence, till, at the sound
of her father's footsteps in the hall, she
suddenly turned on her tormentor and
said:

"I think you are the most hateful man
I ever saw, and—ah! I despise you!"
Mr. Lane cut short any reply by invit-
ing his guest out to supper, and Captain
Fairlie made himself very agreeable to
his host by agreeing with all his Union
sentiments, even exceeding him in his
denunciations of the Confederate
cause, and so won his heart that the
good gentleman invited him to stay with
him for a few days and meet his son,
whom he expected in the morning. Cap-
tain Fairlie politely thanked him, but
feared he could not accept, as his busi-
ness was pressing.

"I have no doubt it is," thought Lida,
"pressing other people's property, and
papa so blind!"

Lida spent the evening at the piano,
playing to herself, and taking no part
in the conversation between the two men.
Mr. Lane leaving the room for a mo-
ment, Captain Fairlie seized the opportunity
to speak to his companion.

"Miss Lane," said he, standing beside
the piano, and speaking in a low voice,
"let me thank you for a pleasant even-
ing."

"And I you for a very disagreeable
one," she answered.
"I know that you cannot leave with-
out discussing your mind of your opin-
ion on me."

"That you cannot do," said she, hotly,
"for I detest you."
"Even if you knew I was one of Mor-
gan's men, flying for my life?"

"You!"
"How much risk I gain your
good opinion! My very life!"
"It is safe with me if what you say is
true."

"Did I not play my part to admiration?"
he asked her, smiling.
"I think you did, you deceitful crea-
ture!"

"And how angry your father will be
to-morrow, when he finds his forage
thrown back on his hands! I am sorry
for that."

"It doesn't matter; he can easily sell
it, but he will be furious at the trick."

"Skin for skin, what won't a man give
for his life?" said the captain, and then
he told her how, when wondering where
he should go, he had followed her home.
"Are you a Kentuckian?"

"No, I am a Georgian, and will be glad
enough to be back in Dixie. So after I
leave to-morrow think of me as kindly
as you can."

"Indeed I will. What can I do for
you?" Oh, do let me do something for
you."

"Aren't you now giving aid and com-
fort to the Rebellion?"
"Very little," said she, smiling.

"I will remember this even—"
Mr. Lane entered and cut short the
sentence. The good gentleman was as-
tonished at the change in his daughter's
deportment; she was so polite to their
guest, and bade him such a smiling good-
night.

"What caused you to alter so sudden-
ly?" asked her father, after Fairlie had
gone to his room. You seemed so
pleased to see him, and now you are so
cold."

"Well, so I was, papa—a tiresome crea-
ture!" cried Lida, laughing gleefully.
To think that one of Morgan's men was
in their house! To think that she held
in her hand a secret! She was wild
with excitement and could hardly sleep.
How many things she planned to say to
him the next morning!

But when she awoke the bird had
 flown.

When alone, Capt. Fairlie began to
think he had done a very foolish thing to
risk his chances of escape in that way.
What did it signify what the girl
thought? She was such a headstrong,
impulsive creature, she would betray his
secret before she knew it. He wished so-
lently he hadn't told her; he was a fool,
indeed.

He got so provoked with himself that
he couldn't sleep, and tossed about plan-
ing to leave the next morning. He de-
termined he'd rise before the break of day
and steal off—better than than run any
risk trying to keep up his character.
Well, he was a fool, indeed!

It was still dark when Fairlie arose,
dressed, and, taking his boots in his
hand, crept out of the house and made
for the stables. Like all country places,
nothing was locked. By the aid of a few
matches, he found where his saddle and
bridle were, and entering the stable took
his horse from the stall and silently
crept away.

He had gone many a mile when day
broke. Perhaps it was best for him to
go thus, though he had sneaked away,
traveling in the night was safer, and he
well his horse traveled. He had pressed
him a few days before, and was not very
well acquainted with him, but it did
seem that his gait had altered, and was
much faster.

Day at last broke. He had made a
good trip, he—his eyes fell on his horse.
Great goodness! It was not his horse.
It was the thoroughbred Lida Lane rode! Oh
horrors! He had stolen the girl's horse!

What should he do? He halted in the
road and tried to consider. He would
go back; yes, and be taken prisoner. No,
he would go forward, and have Lida
Lane think a horse thief all the rest
of her life. Better a prisoner than that.

After much parleying, he determined
he would retrace his steps as fast as pos-
sible, and perhaps he would reach Mr.
Lane's before the theft was discovered.
So he turned, pushed the horse to a can-
ter, and started back. Well, he had
made a precious muddle of it!

But he had traveled farther than he
dreamed, and the sun had risen when he
came in sight of Mr. Lane's house. Here
all was astir. John Lane had arrived
quite early and aroused the household.
He was a captain in the Federal cavalry,
and had taken a hand in the fight with
Morgan. His return made a little stir,
especially as he brought a couple of
comrades with him.

In stabilizing their horses the loss of Pet
was discovered, and a little later Captain
Fairlie was found missing. Consternation
reigned. Mr. Lane told all he knew, and
John saw at once he had been duped.

"Some rascally fellow playing off,
probably Morgan's men; they are
none too good—natural born horse
thieves, eh, Lida?" for John delighted to
tease her.

Alas! Lida's heart felt as if it would
break. Was Fairlie an impostor? A
thief? Was he really one of Morgan's
men? And if so, would he stoop to do so
low a thing? And her darling Pet, too!

Tears rolled down her cheeks. She
could not bear John's rough banter, and
betook herself to the grove, after satisfy-
ing herself that Pet was indeed gone.

Adjoining the pasture land back of the
house was a deep wood. She had not
gone very far into it when what did she
see but Pet, behind the grass field,
whinnying in great glee. As he ap-
peared he came trotting to the fence.

"Oh, Pet, dear Pet, are you really
here?" In her joy she embraced his
neck and kissed him, and the latter
spoke in his face, at which Pet seemed
well pleased. "How did you get back,
my pet?"

"I brought him," said a voice, and,
turning, Lida saw the disguised Con-
federate standing aloof at her from be-
hind a tree.

"You here?"
"Yes, Miss Lane; I brought the horse
back. I really did not mean to take him.
Let me explain and Fairlie went on
to tell why he left and why he returned.

"And you risked your life or capture
for—"
"Your good opinion," said he, smiling.
She was overwhelmed. "Told him,"
she cried, "take the horse and go at
once."

"Many thanks, but I won't put your
patriotism to such a test. I will hide in
this wood to-day and get my own horse
at night."

"Let me bring you some breakfast."
"I'll take supper, if you please. You
had better not be seen carrying food; it
might raise suspicions."

"Then I'll show you a nice place to
hide." She led the way to a secluded spot
and left him.

The return of Pet and hard ridden at
that, caused much musing among the
Lane household, and John declared "the
rascal was off on his own hook."

Captain Fairlie began hungrily to dis-
cuss the food set before him, while Lida
sat watching him in a flutter of delight
at the secrecy, daring and romance gen-
erally of the affair. John crept back to
the house, called his father and his two
comrades, and all, well armed, returned
to capture their man.

"You have been so kind to me I shall
never forget you," Fairlie said.
The men looked at each other. The man
before him was young and handsome; to
her he seemed a hero. And to think he
would risk his life for her good opinion!

"Nor will I forget you," said she, shy-
ly. "Perhaps when this cruel war is
over we shall meet again."

"Heaven grant it! But first let me get
away. My horse—"
"Has been turned into the pasture;
I've seen to that. When it's quite dark
you can get him. You have had to ride
before him young and handsome; to her
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Choice Miscellany.

THE PARABLES OF THE LEAF.

BY G. E. L.

"Know ye not this parable? and how
shall ye know all the parables?" the
Master asked his disciples, when they
came to question him as to the parable
of the Sower. The question suggests
that the world is full of parables for
those who have the understanding heart
that can read them. Our Lord opened
the book of nature, read us a page here
and there of its spiritual meanings, and
then left the book in our hands, that we
might read the rest as we acquire insight
into the facts there disclosed, and their
correspondence to facts of the spiritual
world.

At all times men have seen such a cor-
respondence between the leaf and the
natural life of man. Homer dwells on it
as the type of human fragility and vanity,
and sees in the falling leaves the picture
of the generations passing away into
nothingness. And the same comparison
occurs again and again in the poetry of
the Greeks and the Romans. It is the
favorite image to convey their sense of
the brevity and the unsatisfactoriness of
human existence, which is as a leaf, and
often quoted as applicable to the natural
conditions of our life. But the context
shows he is speaking of a state of society
under the blight of sin, and not of man's
natural decay—a state in which none
could upon God for help, and men are
consumed by their iniquities.

But the old pagan way of looking upon
the leaf is common enough with us, be-
cause we choose to look only on the sur-
face of things. Especially each autumn
we are reminded of the leaf, and we re-
member that it is a leaf, and that it
will vanish away. It is remarkable that
the comparison is not found in the Scrip-
tures. It is true that Isaiah writes, "We
are often quoted as applicable to the natural
conditions of our life. But the context
shows he is speaking of a state of society
under the blight of sin, and not of man's
natural decay—a state in which none
could upon God for help, and men are
consumed by their iniquities."

Yet science shows that the true para-
bles of the leaf lie deeper than these
mournful suggestions, which come to us
when we read the facts so superficially
entirely new to us. The leaf is not a
leaf, and we are a race under the sentence
of death; and even the polychromatic
glories of our American fall are felt to
be but the coloring of a shroud. It
moves us to melancholy rather than to
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the perfect flowering kind. Is this gen-

more energy to this limb, a little more expression to that lip." "Ah! these are trifles, my friend." "Trifles," replied the great sculptor, "make perfection, and perfection is no trifle." So in our work, it is the little things that bring completeness, and completeness means victory. I believe it is by doing one thing here,

I think not carriage roads only, but also railroads, should be built by the government. I do not advocate, as some extremists have, the seizure of railroads belonging to private parties, but I do think it should build such roads in all places where they are needed.

Charlotte.

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